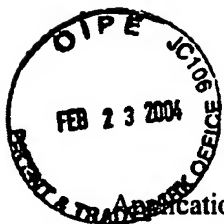


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/715,917
Applicant: R. Eric MONTGOMERY
Filed: November 18, 2003
Art Unit: unknown
Examiner: unknown
Docket No.: 03215294
Customer No.: 26565

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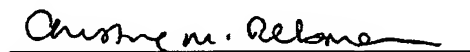
Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are the following for the above-captioned application:

1. Preliminary Amendment "B"; and
2. Return receipt postcard.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional filing fees required under Rule 1.17 concerning this transaction, or to credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 13-0019.

Respectfully submitted,


Christine M. Rebman
Reg. No. 50,546

Date: February 23, 2004
MAYER, BROWN, ROWE & MAW LLP
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/715,917
Applicant: R. Eric MONTGOMERY
Filed: November 18, 2003
Art Unit: 1614
Examiner: unknown
Docket No.:
Customer No.: 26565

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT "B"

Dear Sir:

Prior to examination and the mailing of the first Office Action on the merits for the above application, Applicant respectfully submits the following amendments and remarks, and requests that the Examiner pass this application to allowance.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 10 of this paper.